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JOURNAL

OFFICE OF LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL

Wednesday - 2 May 1962

25X1 1. ([ ] - JSW) Robert Smart telephoned advising the CIA Subcommittee of House Armed Services could meet with the Director for the monthly briefing at ten o'clock on Monday, 7 May. Mr. Smart agreed there should be a sweep of the room (313 Old House Office Bldg.) and indicated no reporter was necessary from their viewpoint.

25X1 2. [ ] JSW) [ ] OSI, advised that the Joint Committee on Atomic Energy had been advised of the recent French nuclear test.

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25X1 3. ([ ] - JSW) William Saltonstall in the office of Senator Leverett Saltonstall telephoned saying he had been contacted by a Washington correspondent for Bill Noland's Oakland newspaper, one Mary Philomena Von Herbert, [ ]. Apparently she was working on some story which involves a person allegedly associated in the past with intelligence work in Germany with OSS and possibly G-2. Miss Von Herbert wanted some confirmation of this fact. I advised William Saltonstall that rather than working through us I would have our office which is concerned with relations with the press contact Miss Von Herbert direct.

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25X1 4. ([ ] - GLC) Talked with James Gehrig and Diane Kincaid, in the office of Senator Stuart Symington, about correspondence which the Senator received from [ ] Missouri 25X1 and the Senator's response. [ ] had sent the Senator a copy of a letter 25X1 dated 25 April which was addressed to the Director in which he expressed concern about Communist advances in Jamaica and the West Indies. In his response to [ ] Symington indicated he was asking CIA and State (who also received a copy of [ ] letter) to advise him of their responses and that he would write [ ] further at that time. I indicated the Director has not as yet received [ ] letter (which allegedly contains attachments) and, therefore, we were not in a position to respond. We will watch for this letter and check with the State Department to see if their copy has been received.

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25X1 5. ([ ] - GLC) Made arrangements to meet with Representative Edgar W. Hiestand to discuss with him his letter to the Director concerning reports "that Communists are planning on taking over Mexico and the rest of South America in 1963 in order to attack us from that direction." Mr. Hiestand was detained on the floor and I discussed the matter with his secretary, Mrs. Maxine Stark. On the basis of the information provided by WH Division, I advised Mrs. Stark that we had received similar reports from other sources and were watching this area very closely. I added that while the Communist Party is very active in South and Central America our investigation did not confirm reports of any overall plan to take over the governments in this area during 1963 for an attack against the U.S. I asked Mrs. Stark in responding to inquiries on this subject that she not attribute this information to the Agency. She said she understood and was most appreciative of the information. In the course of conversation, I referred to Mr. Hiestand's unannounced visit to the building site on a weekend in February and again extended an invitation to him to make a tour of the building at his convenience.

25X1 6. ([ ] - GLC) I called [ ] to ask if he had 25X1  
25X1 any information on Mrs. Downey's visit with the Attorney General and  
25X1 Senator Thomas J. Dodd. [ ] said that after her meeting with them,  
25X1 Mrs. Downey and her son, William, met with [ ] and his committee  
25X1 to discuss the case of her older son, John. Mrs. Downey apparently  
25X1 discussed with Senator Dodd some of the details involving an exchange for  
25X1 John and Dodd expressed an interest in talking with [ ] about this. 25X1  
25X1 I am to meet with [ ] tomorrow to discuss this in greater detail.

25X1  
[ ]  
JOHN S. WARNER  
Legislative Counsel

cc: Ex/Dir  
DD/S  
Colonel Grogan

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